## MONOCLONAL ANTIBODY AND ITS NATIVE EPITOPE FOR DETECTION OF AIDS-RELATED DISEASES

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention discloses a monoclonal antibody capable of demonstrating specific reactivity with a conformational epitope on the Human Immunodeficiency Virus I protein gp41. The present invention also provides for a cell line capable of producing such a monoclonal antibody as well as immunological procedures for the detection in biological samples of exposure to HIV. The invention further provides for the use of the monoclonal antibody as a probe against native antigens and synthetic peptides of HIV.